TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 2001

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bud Hughes K4CWG

There is an ongoing discussion among the various clubs in Brevard County to put on a county-wide hamfest in a centrally located area, namely Cocoa. Brevard County is blessed with so many fine radio clubs and in each club there are countless numbers of hams who have experience in working hamfests. Every one knows it takes a lot of effort and hard work to put together a hamfest. However with all clubs participating the various tasks would be shared by all clubs thereby easing the overall workload for just one club.

It would be fun to work with all interested Brevard clubs on this county-wide project. Please give some thought to this idea. If there is enough interest we will form a study group and make a determination on this project.

Thanks to so many of our ladies and gents who did such a wonderful job of preparing the delicious food for our September 25 "Pot Luck" dinner. There was a good turnout and we all enjoyed the food and camaraderie.

There is a caravan forming to journey to and attend the Jacksonville Hamfest October 27. If you would like to be a part of this entourage, let me know.

The Titusville Radio Club will hold its election of officers and board members at the November 27 club meeting. Only paid members may vote, so be sure your membership is in good standing and remember to come out and cast your vote.

As the weather cools we are reminded that many of our dear friends will be coming back to be with us for the winter.

Hope to see you at the club meeting October 23.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

OCT. 1 W1VN BILL QUIN
OCT. 4 KF4AOW W. S. DAMPIER
OCT. 10 KF4ZOK SUZAN HAHNE
OCT. 11 WB4ZWI JAY JOHNSON
OCT. 11 N4UWC MELANIE FLYNN
OCT. 13 AF4DP BERNIE FLANAGAN
OCT. 16 AC4WM MITCH MATHENY
OCT. 16 N4IPJ MICHAEL FINEMAN
OCT. 18 N4MCZ ROD IWAN
OCT. 22 KR4WB CHARLIE EATON
OCT. 22 WR4FSU ROBERT STRAUGHN
OCT. 22 KE4MXG CARL LINEBAUGH
OCT. 23 KF4IGK GRANT HAHNE
OCT. 23 KE4FFA MONA SKIDMORE
OCT. 24 NB5EM DAVID CREASMAN
OCT. 25 K4KON BRUCE HOOVER
OCT. 26 N9FAB LORRAINE TENDICK
OCT. 27 WA3FKC ED SUMMERSETT
OCT. 28 KE4MXH MARILYN LINEBAUGH
OCT. 29 W1IIA WALT HART

CELL PHONE JAMMERS IN THE FUTURE?
From 9/01 CyberSkip

Cellular phone users who talk anywhere they want may be the most loathed human life form since obnoxious school kids first started cutting into cafeteria lines.

Not only do ringing cell phones disturb movie theaters, churches and restaurants, but people tend to talk much louder into their Nokias and Ericsons than they do in normal conversation. And it's done in most of the world's languages because it's a global trend.

Not surprisingly, there are jamming devices on the market that can block cell phone transmissions, and some jam pagers from interrupting films, sermons, lunch, and board meetings. The devices, in some form or another, have been available for at least four years.

So why don't theater chains, eateries, houses of worship and other public venues employ the gizmos to stop the annoying, rude and unpopular habit some cell phone users have developed?

It's because the U. S. and most other countries ban the use of such devices, but 25 to 30 other nations believe cell phone jammers are a great idea.

In fact, Minnesota based Image Sensing Systems Inc. is filling an order for 5,000 of its Mobile Blockers for oil-rich Bahrain.

"A lot of these units are being used for law enforcement and military security applications, and I'm not in a position to state who the customers are," said Bill Sowell, vice president of business development for Image Sensing.

The 12-inch unit, which was developed by Image Sensing engineers, sells for $850, he said. It has been on the market for only a few months.

The FCC "prohibits the manufacture, importation, sale, offer for sale, or use of" cell phone jammers, and threatens a fine of $11,000 per violation.

Sowell said the commission gave Image Sensing approval to sell the devices, as the units are

actually made outside the U. S. and are shipped directly to the buyer.

"So long as we don't sell any units in the U. S. and we keep a log of those units we ship, we won't have a problem," Sowell said.

There are fears that cell phone jamming would block police, fire and other emergency calls, but Image Sensing's device does not interfere with such communications, he said.

In Canada, the Government sought public comment on cell phone jamming after a poll found support for the use of such devices in most public places. Now only law enforcement agencies have received licenses for cell phone silencers in Canada.

Sixty-eight percent were in favor of using jamming technology in places of worship and movie theaters, while 65 percent backed cell phone blocks in public libraries. Support softened when the 1000 adults were asked about hospitals, airplanes and art galleries, for all of which just 57 percent favored the use of jamming technology.

The tables turned when Canadians were asked about shopping malls, with 78 percent opposed to jamming phones and just 18 percent in favor.

Other companies, such a NetLine Communications Inc. and Special Electronics Security Products, both based in Israel, are among several that produce cell phone jammers.

Image Sensing is close to launching Mobile Alert, a device designed to be placed near gasoline pumps to guard against the remote possibility of cell-phone triggered fire, Sowell said. When the device detects a cell phone in use near pumps, it sends a recorded message via loud-speaker reminding users of the danger.

Image Sensing is at http://www.imagesensing.com

INTERNET UPDATE

Know Your Airport. Get the basic layout on every airport in the world here at Landings.com, not to mention elevation, geographical location, maximum runway length, airport radio frequency, sunset time, weather forecast and conditions, even directions to the airport. This airport guide is just one of dozens of features on this kitchen-sink-of-aviation Web site. The latest flying news headlines, stories, reference databases, expert forums and links to all the other top aviation-related sites are also here. **Http://www.landings.com/**

Locate an ATM. Caught with your wallet empty in a strange town? Then you didn't consult ATM Locator. This free service will produce a map of the nearest automatic teller machine locations wherever you are. We tried Stillwater, Minn., and found four of the five ATMs that exist here, all neatly mapped out and easy to find. A search for ATMs in Venice, Italy produced 99 ATM locations with specific street addresses, but unfortunately no map. But mama mai, what a resource! Now if we can just find a public restroom locator… http://visaatm.infonow.net/bin/findNow?CLIENT_ID=VISA

Climate Prediction Center. Those of us suffering through a prolonged heat wave may want to know what the future has in store - more of the same? To get the long term picture on climate, not only for today but down the road a few weeks, check out what national experts are saying, based on satellite and other data, at the Climate Prediction Center, a service of the National Centers for Environmental Prediction, part of the National Weather Service. Experts determine where the heat waves, droughts, and precipitation will occur including spots called

"U. S. Threat Assessments" where particularly dangerous conditions may arise.
Http://WWW.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/index.html

Wired for History. History buffs should waste no time checking out this site. The Smithsonian Institution's "History Wired: A Few of our Favorite Things" is a virtual tour of selected objects from the 3-million-piece National Museum of American History collection, which only displays physically about 5% of its material at any given time. Labeled "an experimental site," its developers say they hope sites like this one and others will bring more national historic treasures into view. HistoryWired focuses on famous, unusual and everyday items.
http://historywired.si.edu/index.html

Earth Observatory. NASA is displaying images of the eruption of Mt. Etna in Sicily, along with many other geographical observations at its Earth Observatory site. Satellite and spectroradiometer images from Terra, launched in December 1999, take pictures of the Earth at nine angles simultaneously, using nine separate cameras pointed forward, downward and backward along its flight path. The images of the earth's surface and atmosphere are part of the latest research into hurricanes, volcanoes and ocean temperatures. A current animation explores the link between ocean warmth and vegetation growth on land across a span of a dozen years. Primarily set up for scientific research, the site's images are nevertheless fascinating and beautiful, showing Earth as a living entity, constantly changing.
Http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov

CORRESPONDENCE
From 10/01 QST

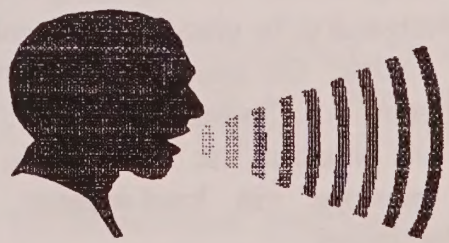
INTRIGUED

I was intrigued with the July "Returning to Amateur Radio" letter from Ray Meyer, WA0KNP. I too have recently returned to Amateur Radio after an extended absence. I first obtained an amateur license in 1957 and last renewed it in 1967. A growing young family and exciting adult electronic toys at work got in the way of continued activity in ham radio.

I took the exam in March and then applied for, and received, my old call, W7GGI, a month later. As soon as I had my old call back, I applied for ARRL membership and after 30 years QST again arrives in my mailbox. I purchased a used Kenwood TS-430S and an antenna tuner and put up a "stealth" antenna under the eaves of my house. And I have discovered that all of those old junk boxes in the back corner of the garage are worth something after all.

I find that Amateur Radio is still much the same great group of people. In other ways things have sure changed. Who would have thought that text messages could be sent with only 31Hz of bandwidth (PKS31)! Or that a powerful home computer could be a part of a ham station, that the Internet would be a key source of information, or that we would have to be concerned about human exposure to RF radiation. When I was last involved, ham radio, SSB and repeater stations were in their infancy and I sure had never heard of a non-resonant antenna!

I just sent in a $100 order for books from ARRL, and am thinking very seriously about taking the Extra exam. I am excited about again being involved in ham radio and am looking forward to making new friends. *Art Brown, W7GGI, Auburn, Washington.*



ARRL PETITIONS FOR 60-METER AMATEUR BAND
From QST 10/01

An ARRL petition filed in late July could result in a new high-frequency band for US amateurs. In accordance with action taken at the July Board of Directors meeting, the ARRL has asked the FCC to allocate 5.250 to 5.400 MHz to the Amateur Service on a domestic (US only), secondary basis.

The FCC promptly put the petition on public notice, assigning a rulemaking number, RM-10209, and inviting comments until September 12. Even if the FCC eventually okays the petition, it's likely to be several years before the new band becomes available.

In its petition, the ARRL told the FCC that the proposed allocation would aid emergency communication activities by filling a "propagation gap" between 80 and 40 meters, particularly for emergency communications during hurricanes and severe weather emergencies. The ARRL also said a new 150-kHz allocation at 5 MHz could relieve overcrowding on 80 and 40.

The ARRL has proposed that General class and higher amateurs be permitted to operate CW, phone, data, image and RTTY on the new band running maximum authorized power. No mode-specific subbands were proposed. If allocated to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, hams would have to avoid interfering with - and accept interference from - current occupants of the spectrum, as they already do on 30 meters.

The ARRL said that its successful WA2XSY experimental operation between 1999 and this year demonstrated that amateur stations can coexist with current users and that the band is very suitable for US-to-Caribbean paths. In comparisons with 80 and 40 meters, the WA2XGY operation also showed the 60-meter band to be the most reliable of the three.

The ARRL said it determined from a search of frequency files that the band 5.250 to 5.400 MHz has the fewest assignments in the US and that the total number of assignments in the band from 5.1 to 5.45 MHz had dropped significantly over the past few years. The 150-kHz bandwidth is necessary, the ARRL said, to allow amateurs flexibility to determine an operating frequency over "a sufficiently wide range as to avoid interference to fixed and mobile services."

"An amateur allocation in this band would improve the Amateur Service's already exemplary record of providing emergency communications during natural disasters when even modern communications systems typically fail. HF Amateur stations are a necessary backbone in international disaster relief involving, for example, Caribbean countries, and the proposed allocation would provide seamless propagation path coverage between the United States and Caribbean nations, and the United States' own possessions and commonwealths there."

"An amateur allocation in the vicinity of 5 MHz has long been an objective of the International Amateur Radio Union. The IARU's Administrative Council has approved a long-term goal of "a narrow allocation, even on a shared basis in the vicinity of 5 MHz."

The subject of an international 5 MHz Amateur Radio allocation is not on the agenda for World Radiocommunication Conference 2003, nor has it been proposed for subsequent WRCs. Proposals are pending in Europe for a band around 5 MHz, however, and the band 5.245 to 5.445 MHz is being studied as a possible candidate for the Amateur Service in the United Kingdom. Efforts are under way to get authorization for an experimental operation there.

A copy of the ARRL petition is available on the ARRL Web site:
www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/5MHz

ABELL'S ANECDOTES

By Pike Abell W4EPU

At this time I cannot possibly think of anything to write about but the horrible and almost unbelievable events which happened on Tuesday, September 11, 2001 at the World Trade Center in Manhattan, New York and the Pentagon building in suburban Washington DC.

I was born during WWI. I fought in WWII. I have lived through the Korean War, the Vietnam conflict and Desert Storm. Yet nothing has so devastated me as this attack on our country. We are surrounded by thousands of miles of oceans on both the east and west and friendly countries to the north and south. Yet, in view of what has happened, nothing has ever reminded me, as this has, that this great free country of ours is no longer a safe haven.

As most everyone knows the Pentagon building is the nucleus, the headquarters, and the nerve center of our entire Military organizations. Unless you have been in that building, as I have, one cannot imagine how huge it is. It is one of, if not the largest building in the world. Thousands of people work there every day. Even the approximate number is a closely guarded secret.

The exact geographic location of the Pentagon is not highly publicized but well known. There has always been a major concern that, in the event of a nuclear war, it would be a prime target of an ICBM. But apparently no one ever had a clue that a commercial airline, full of innocent people and a handful of terrorists bent on committing suicide would be used to "bomb" the Pentagon.

It is equally incomprehensible that the same method would be used to target and destroy the majestic and mammoth World Trade Center towers and surrounding structures, killing over 6500 people, almost three times the number that were killed at Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941.

I can imagine that one brainwashed and probably drugged individual could be persuaded to blow himself up in a car for whatever cause. But it seems inconceivable that a group of dozens of people would be so cohesive and dedicated to their cause as to train for months and perhaps years to carry out a mission which would knowingly cost all of their lives along with thousands of innocent people.

If anything good can come out of this, it is that there is an air of patriotism comparable to that of World War-II, not seen in this country since then. If we can hold on to that, there is nothing we cannot accomplish.

A prayer service in the National Cathedral actually being led at times by the President of the United States is something that, as I recall, has never happened before. As Matt, KE4NYM, put it, "I just watched the prayer service from the National Cathedral. All faiths gathered together in prayer." Matt also commented about the fact that officially we're not allowed to pray in our schools, or any public gathering. Is it possible that in the light of all that has happened, that may change? At any rate, perhaps the opponents to public prayer will not be so anxious to express their opposition.

Also, worthy of note, Nick, KE4SEK, wrote, "Let us keep those families of the victims of this tragic event in our prayers, and let us pray that something like this will never happen in this country again".

So you see, in our great country "In God we Trust" is not just something printed on currency, it is a way of life.

As the president now ends all of his speeches, GOD BLESS AMERICA. 73s es 88s

SEPTEMBER MINUTES
By Becky Lee, KF4HTB

The September meeting was the annual Pot Luck Supper.

Stephanie K4MVO was the one who laid out all those beautiful decorations (she had a little help from Bud and John & Pat).

Sherry KU4ZO was the one who cooked the turkey, carved the turkey, made the dressing, made the gravy, and the good Lord only knows what else she did, including dragging it all to the Jaycee building to cook when the power at her house went out, and dragging it all back home afterward. And on top of everything else, she was not feeling up to snuff that day. Do all our members realize how much of Sherry's time and efforts go into club functions? Let's each and every one make a special point of telling Sherry just how much she is appreciated.

There was no pressing business discussed - just good conversation and lots of full tummies. All the members and their families who attend really do enjoy the September get together, and the food is the best to be found in Titusville and surrounding countryside. If you missed this one, mark your calendar now for next year so you'll be sure not to miss it.

WE ALL LOVE YOU, SHERRY

TREASURERS REPORT
By Becky Lee, KF4HTB

Balance forward from 2000	$4324.14
Deposits Year to Date	4140.35
TOTAL INCOME	**$8464.49**
Expenditures	3878.90
BALANCE AS AT 9/30/01	**$4585.59**

CLUB OFFICERS
President: Bud Hughes, K4CWG. 269-0779
V.Pres: Ozzie Osband, N4SCY. 321-LIFTOFF
Sec/Treas: Becky Lee, KF4HTB, 267-9375

ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS
Pat Renninger, KF4LTY. 267-9431
John Renninger, KE4ZPA. 267-9431
Anthony Hurkala, KG4CEB. 268-4240
Sherry Hughes, KU4ZO. 269-0779

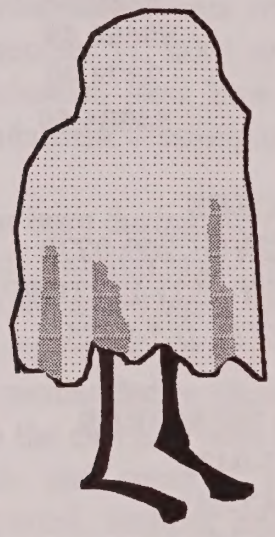
REPEATER CUSTODIAN BOARD MEMBERS
Les Griner, K4SJC (146.91) 267-1565
Warren Murray, W4CEL (146.97) 638-5476
Dave McLean, WB4SIG (444.15) 267-6181
Larry Carr, WB9MFJ (Packet-Rose Node) 268-4114

CLUB INFORMATION
Meetings: Monthly on 4th Tuesday at 1900 hrs. at Jaycee Building

Newsletter Editors: KF4HTB Becky Lee
K4EOS Clyde Lee

Nets: **VIP**-Thursdays at 1000 hrs. 146.910
Friendship-Thursdays at 1830 hrs. 146.910
Mosquito-Wednesdays at 1900 hrs. 28.333
Traders-Fridays at 2000 hrs 146.910

TITUSVILLE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P. O. BOX 73
TITUSVILLE FL 32781-0073



BOO!! I'M A GHOST!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Total membership: 220 (151 regular, 51 family, 12 honorary, 6 other)

NEW MEMBERS:
KG4PJP ALAN DUNN
KF4PGJ MIKE BRADY
000000 LEE BRADY
AF7W TERRY HALLADEY
KE4WQD CORINNE SUMMERSETT

RENEWALS: W4AHM ALAN MARSDEN
KD4ITX NANCY MARSDEN
KF4DTC ABBIE MARSDEN
KF4LUA GWEN COLVIN
WA3FKC ED SUMMERSETT
W1IIA WALT HART

RENEWALS: N4LAC JASON RUDISILL
W9LSD DICK DUELL
WA1NXI MIKE WHELPLEY

HAMFESTS:

10/13	STARKE
10/13	TAMPA
10/13	SUNRISE
10/27	JACKSONVILLE
11/03	UMATILLA
11/10	PORT ST. LUCIE
11/24	OKEECHOBEE
12/01-2	PALMETTO
12/08	LAKE CITY